

REMARKS


The Applicant wishes to thank the Examiner for thoroughly reviewing and considering the pending application. The Official Action dated May 1, 2006 has been received and carefully reviewed. Claims 2 and 3 have been amended. Claims 4, 5, 17, 18, and 26 were previously canceled. Accordingly, claims 1-3, 6-16, and 19-34 are currently pending. Reexamination and reconsideration is respectfully requested.

In the Office Action, the Examiner indicated that double brackets should be used instead of strikethroughs to show proposed changes. The Applicant has made these changes as shown above.

The application is in a condition for allowance and favorable action is respectfully solicited. If for any reason the Examiner believes a conversation with the Applicant's representative would facilitate the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned attorney at (202) 496-7500. All correspondence should continue to be sent to the below-listed address.

Dated: May 31, 2006

Respectfully submitted,

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